

0011
03124
4
Thursday, April 8, 2004

NOEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

APR 12 2004

LSU SHREVEPORT

The Almagest

Volume 45, Issue 8

Inside this Issue

Volume 45, Issue 8

Letters to the Editorpg. 2
SAB Family Daypg. 3
Spring Flingpg. 3
Baseballpg. 4
Debate Tournamentpg. 5
Jason's Flick Pickspg. 7
Mentalist Banachekpg. 8
Calendar of Eventspg. 8

Faculty Senate deletes Dead Week

BY LAURIE DI IULIO

Dead Week was officially killed by the Faculty Senate during their March 16 meeting but has since been added back on the agenda of the April 15 meeting because of the hasty manner in which the decision was made.

During the meeting, some of the senate members questioned if there was really a need for Dead Week and motioned to do away with it. The motion passed with six in favor, three against and two abstaining votes.

Dead Week is the week before each semester's end and commands that no major projects, tests or other activities be assigned to students so they can focus on studying for their

final exams.

After finding out about this policy change, SGA representatives met with Dr. Stuart Mills, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, to discuss the issue. The SGA members said they were concerned that the original Dead Week policy was founded on a joint partnership between the SGA and Faculty Senate but dissolved without any student input. Mills discussed this concern with Dr. James Ingold, associate professor of biology and president of the Faculty Senate, and it was agreed that the issue would be readdressed at the next meeting.

Typically, it is the executive committee who sets the agenda for the meetings. The decision to put Dead Week back on the

agenda came about from a concern for better representation of the students.

"Dr. Mills asked me to do that after he talked with the SGA," said Ingold. "This [decision] came about quickly because there was no student input."

Dr. Rebecca Nolan, professor of psychology and a member of the Faculty Senate was one of the members who voted to discontinue Dead Week. Nolan stated that the original purpose of Dead Week was to ban student activities during the week before finals. However, she feels the policy places an undue restriction on the management of class time. She said she has given tests during Dead Week, but only after giving her students the choice be-

tween testing during Dead Week or the week before.

Although Nolan doesn't feel there is a need for Dead Week, she said she is open to student opinion.

"Students may feel differently about this," she said. "We're always open to their input. That's what we're here for — to serve students."

Dead Week began on the LSUS campus in the fall semester of 2001. The definition in the policy statement of Dead Week is "a joint agreement by faculty and students [that] is an effort to promote academic excellence by eliminating unneeded burdens at the end of the regular semesters." The students agreed that "no social activities,

SEE DEAD WEEK PAGE 5

SGA president-elect fights for return of Dead Week

BY BRANDI REGISTER

The results are in, and the student body has new officers taking over the Student Government Association. The SGA held elections over the last few weeks for their new officers. The newly elected officers are Lacey Spencer, president; Terrance Neal, vice president; and 16 college senators.

The SGA as a whole works as a mediator for the students of LSUS. They strive to better the campus and school policies. Currently, they are working on getting better lighting for the campus mall, the area in the center of campus in front of the University Center, so students will feel safe walking to class at night.

Spencer — a junior biology major, the current vice president and president elect of the SGA — recently met with Chancellor Vincent Marsala to discuss the recent Faculty Senate decision to do away with Dead Week. Spencer felt that because there was no student discussion or input, the decision should be reevaluated. Dead Week is now back on the Faculty Senate



NIKKI MORA

Lacey Spencer is the newly elected president of the SGA.

agenda for the April 15 meeting.

Ryan Barnaby, a senior political science/history major and current SGA senator, also feels that Dead Week and the repeat/delete policy should be brought back.

"I have had a lot of students ap-

SEE SGA PAGE 3

RIAA aims to stop music file sharing

BY ERIC PULSIFER

Students learned the legalities of downloading music online in a panel discussion with a lawyer in the University Center Theater on April 1. Johnathon Whitehead, an attorney representing the Recording Industry Association of America, gave a 20-minute presentation during common hour about illegal file sharing on the Internet.


As an RIAA vice president and anti-piracy counsel, Whitehead is one of the men responsible for the string of lawsuits targeting over 2,000 file swappers around the country since last August.

Whitehead has temporarily stepped out of the courtroom to pursue the RIAA's secondary tac-



SEE RIAA PAGE 6

WEEKLY WEATHER

Today:		
Hi: 75		
Lo: 58		
Friday:		
Partly Cloudy	Hi: 82	Lo: 59
Saturday:		
Showers	Hi: 75	Lo: 51
Sunday:		
Few Showers	Hi: 66	Lo: 48
Monday:		
Sc't'd Showers	Hi: 65	Lo: 45
Tuesday:		
Mostly Sunny	Hi: 72	Lo: 52
Wednesday:		
Mostly Sunny	Hi: 76	Lo: 54

The Almagest Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Candice Leone

Production Manager
N. J. McMichael

Managing Editor
Dana Brian

Business Editor
Michael Scott

Entertainment Editor
Jason Limerick

Staff
Neil Cassard
Pamela Hamilton
Becky Mayo
Nikki Mora

The Almagest

Bronson Hall, Room 344

Louisiana State University in Shreveport
One University Place,
Shreveport, La. 71115
phone/fax: (318) 797-5328

e-mail: almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

Suzzanne Bright, faculty adviser

Corrections

No clarifications this week.

Editorial Policy

The information presented in this publication by no means reflects the opinions of the administration or staff of LSUS. *The Almagest* seeks to provide information for the LSUS campus and community; to involve students, faculty and staff; and to provide a public forum for ideas as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution. Letters to the Editor are encouraged. However, the staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, length, and content. Any letter submitted by a club or organization must be signed by all members of the group or by the group's president. *The Almagest* reserves the right not to publish submitted materials.

The Almagest is published on Thursday mornings and is printed by the Natchitoches Times.

Comments and complaints are welcome and should be addressed to Candice Leone, Editor-in-Chief. They must be accompanied by your full name and email address.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fellow Students,

I wanted to take this time to address several issues that I think students should know about. On Tuesday, March 16, 2004 the Faculty Senate made a very hasty decision without much discussion, and with very little student input. The Faculty Senate voted to do away with Dead Week starting the fall semester in 2004.

For those of you who don't understand the magnitude of this decision, let me explain the purpose of Dead Week. Dead week was brought about to prevent tyrannical professors from giving major tests the week before finals, as a way of giving a break to students, along with extra opportunities to study for finals. In

essence, this means that beginning in the fall, there is a very real possibility that a majority of the students on this campus may have a two week series of major tests- tests that would wrap up new material one week, followed by cumulative finals the next.

This is not the first time that the Faculty Senate has acted so rashly. At last month's meeting the faculty senate voted to do away with repeat/delete. SGA has passed resolutions through the SGA senate that supported the existing policies of repeat/delete, with a three-attempt limitation, as well as the Dead Week policy (with an allowance for athletic events).

"I do not feel that these existing policies are trivial things that can be done away with on the whim of Rebecca Nolan, just because she wants to be able to test us all the time."

-Brad Craft
SGA president

Your student representatives have spoken for you, but their voices are being muted by a Faculty Senate that has a total disregard for the opinions of, as Faculty Senator Jessie Demello (who voted against doing away with Dead Week) said, "The students who are our customers."

I do not feel that these existing policies are trivial things that can be done away with on the whim of Rebecca Nolan (who motioned to do away with Dead Week) just because she wants to be able to test us all the time.

Of course, the ultimate decision of whether repeat/delete and Dead Week will be done away with lies in the hands of our

provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs, Stuart Mills (Office telephone number—797-5374). As far as I'm concerned, one voice hasn't really made a difference lobbying our causes, so I would urge any student displeased about this decision to call and express your concerns to Dr. Mills.

Oh, by the way — if anyone was upset about the use of their name in this letter, get over it. You have to be held accountable by someone.

In the Service of our Students,
Bradly J. Craft
SGA president

From the Editor

Last weekend I experienced what I used to consider the ultimate southern, hillbilly phenomenon — Nascar. When my boyfriend's parents asked us to go with them for the Nextel Series in Dallas, I agreed to go only to get out of Shreveport and away from lingering final school projects.

When I got to Texas Motor Speedway, it was hard for me to keep from laughing at all of the sideburns, sports bras, rebel flags and slippers that the fans were wearing. I couldn't believe how much money people spent on scanners and Jeff Gordon and "Junior" souvenirs. I was also really confused by the connection people

seem to make between being a good American and loving George W. Bush and Nascar, and my Democratic attitude kind of resented it.

Between the planes flying over the stadium during the national anthem and the Rock screaming "Gentlemen—start your engines," I surprised myself by actually feeling sentimental and patriotic. (Okay, it could have been the Miller Lites, too, but either way—I was having fun and no longer amazed by all the mullets around me.)

By the time the race was halfway through, I had actually bought a Tony Stewart koozie and

told my boyfriend that I wouldn't go with him to get a hot dog because I couldn't pull myself away from Kasey Khane. I was really into the race. It was weird.

I still didn't go out and buy a \$100 Dale Jarrett jacket, but after the race those redneck hillbillies didn't seem so different from me after all. Between exchanging frequency lists and driver stats, we bonded. I even asked my boyfriend if he would take me to Dallas again for the next race. I guess I can be influenced.

But even though I am a newly converted Nascar fan, doesn't mean I changed my mind about Bush.

The Almagest letters policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your classification and major. Letters should be submitted to *the Almagest* office, BH 344, by 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed.

The Almagest reserves the right to edit all letters.

SAB caters to non-traditional students with family carnival

BY PRISCILLA TURNER

The Student Activities Board had the non-traditional student in mind when they hosted a family day carnival on Friday, April 2. The carnival featured many fun activities for children, including inflatables, pony rides and sand art. All the activities were free to the participants. SAB also gave away snow cones, cotton candy and

popcorn.

Student Affairs personnel and SAB members manned the activity booths. Paula Atkins, assistant director of student development and counseling, worked the sand art booth and said they were busy from 6:15 until 9 p.m., when the carnival ended. Atkins said she brought her family to the carnival to have some family time together.

Firemen from the Shreveport Fire Department were on hand to talk with children about fire safety and help with the fire truck slide inflatable. There were also two bouncers and a tunnel for children to play in. If inflatable toys didn't interest the kids, they could play putt-putt, bowl or play plinko.

The Physics Department provided telescopes for children to view the stars, and stuck rods through balloons without popping them to show children that physics can be fun and exciting.

Mollie Schmelzer, technical services coordinator, said there were between 300 and 400 people at the carnival. SAB had estimated about 500 people to attend the event.

Schmelzer said that SAB wanted to have a family-oriented event because they have recognized that non traditional students do not get to participate in campus life.

"By having a family event, it allows non-traditional students to experience campus life with their families," said Schmelzer. She said SAB decided to do a family event after feedback from students with families who are usually unable to attend events on campus.

Lisa Branch, an LSUS admissions counselor, brought her son, Noah, husband, Jeremy, and a few friends to participate in the SAB Family Day Carnival.

"We had a great time," said Branch. "We did sand art, had a pony ride and got our face painted. We enjoyed this event and look forward to next year."

Spring Fling takes on beach theme

BY NIKKI MORA

The annual Spring Fling will be taking place at LSUS next Thursday and Friday, April 15-16. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m., students will take part in many activities brought to LSUS by the Student Activities Board and paid for by student activities fees.

"The Spring Fling committee has tried to make this year's Spring Fling a little different than the previous years," said Katie Allen, head of the Spring Fling planning committee.

"We're having three live bands, beach games and water activities, so the students should really enjoy hanging out and having a good time. It's sure to be a day that everyone can enjoy," she said.

This year's fling has a beach theme. There will be giveaways throughout the event including koozies with crawfish logos on them and beach towels. T-shirts will be on sale for \$3.

On Thursday, the first day of the event, the SOC Fair will take place in front of the University Center. Campus organizations will set up booths to sell food and other items to raise money for their clubs.

Local band Ill Persona and others will be playing live music. Clear Channel Radio will also be at the event.

Some of the activities for that day include a rock wall, a bungee run, laser tag and wax hands.

On Friday, students can get free crawfish, corn and potatoes with their student ID at the crawfish boil. Faculty, staff, and the public can purchase the crawfish for \$3. Beer will also be available for \$1 a cup to students who are 21 and older. Smoothie King is also scheduled to come.

Some of the events for this day include an adrenaline rush obstacle course, robo surf, jousting and a water slide. Many of the games involve water, to stay with the beach theme. Allen recommends that students who want to participate in the games and activities on Friday may want to bring a change of clothes.

Live music will also be played all day on Friday. The band Second Chance is scheduled to play from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Mollie Schmelzer, technical services coordinator of the Office of Student Activities, really hopes to entertain the students and get them involved on campus.

"We want to show them that there is more to LSUS than just going to class," said Schmelzer. "We want to celebrate a semester of hard work."



SGA
continued from page 1

proach me about getting Dead Week and repeat/delete back," said Barnaby. "I just wish the Faculty Senate knew how important these two issues are to students, so they would not have gotten rid of them so rashly." Barnaby was defeated by Spencer for the position of SGA president.

The SGA is currently working to raise funds to update the HPE building and is developing a new university attendance policy. Tentatively, the reformed policy would al-

low the department chair of each department to write his or her own attendance policy. If professors choose to implement an attendance policy, they must use the one created by the chair of their department.

"The SGA wants to leave it up to the students whether or not they want to go to class."

-Lacey Spencer
SGA President Elect

"The SGA wants to leave it up to the students whether or not they want to go to class," said Spencer.

Spencer said students are welcome to voice their opinions at the SGA meetings, which are held every Thursday during common hour in the UC.

the Almagest

wants your feedback

e-mail us at
almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

or call 797-5328

SPORTS

Baseball team hits the road
for spring break games

BY NIKKI BUTLER

During spring break, the LSUS Pilots took their longest road trip of the year to Thomasville, Ga., Montgomery, Ala., and Mobile, Ala. to play seven games in five days.

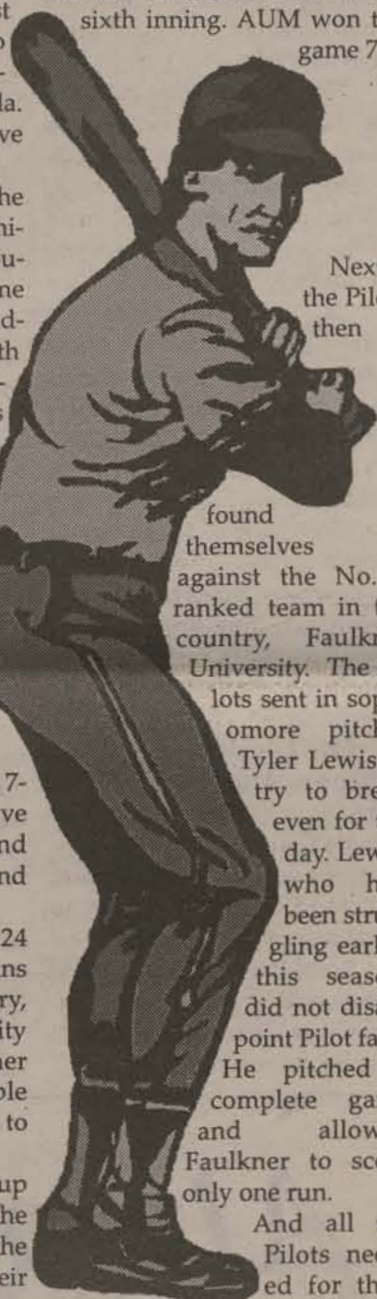
On Tuesday, March 23 the Pilots played the Thomas University Night Hawks in a double header. The first game seemed to be set as they headed into the bottom of the sixth inning with a 6-1 lead. Unfortunately, the Night Hawks took advantage of two Pilot errors and kept the inning alive. A grand slam by the Night Hawks brought the score to a 6-6 tie. Neither team scored again until the bottom of the inning when the Night Hawks hit the ball into right field allowing the winning run to score from second.

The Pilots lost the game 7-6. They weren't ready to give up yet though. In the second game, the Pilots came back and won 7-4.

On Wednesday, March 24 the Pilots loaded up their vans and headed to Montgomery, Ala., to face Auburn University of Montgomery and Faulkner University in another double header. AUM jumped ahead to a 3-0 lead in the first inning.

The Pilots tried to regroup and pulled ahead 6-3 by the fifth inning. But once again, the Pilots weren't able to hold their

lead. AUM took advantage of the Pilots defense and brought in four unearned runs in the sixth inning. AUM won the game 7-6.



Next, the Pilots then

found themselves up against the No. 6 ranked team in the country, Faulkner University. The Pilots sent in sophomore pitcher Tyler Lewis to try to break even for the day. Lewis, who had been struggling earlier this season, did not disappoint Pilot fans. He pitched a complete game and allowed Faulkner to score only one run.

And all the Pilots needed for their

offense was Chase Cox. Cox hit a three-run homerun in the bottom of the third inning- his first homerun of the year. Cox finished 3-4 on the day with five RBI's. The Pilots came out on top 10-1.

AUM and Faulkner University are both part of the Georgia-Alabama-Carolina Conference. While the Pilots will not see these teams again in the GCAC finals, they hope to see them again in post-season on their way to the World Series for the second time.

"It was good that we got to play AUM and Faulkner," said Cox. "They are teams from another conference and it gives us a chance to see them in action. Hopefully we will play them again in the post-season and we will know what we are up against."

Next, the team traveled to Mobile, Ala., to play the Springhill College Badgers. On Friday night, the Pilots found themselves behind by only one run for the third time of the week.

On Saturday, the Pilots faced the Badgers in a double header and were determined to step ahead. The Pilots won both games with scores of 3-1 and 7-5.

The Pilots improved their record to 21-13 over the break and stand alone in second place in the GCAC, six games behind William Carey College.

Pilots sweep double-header
against Paul Quinn Tigers

BY NIKKI BUTLER

After returning home from their seven game trip, the LSUS Pilots hosted the Paul Quinn University Fighting Tigers in a double-header.

The Pilots quickly took advantage of the Tigers' starting pitcher. In the first inning, the Pilots scored five runs on four hits and collected six stolen bases.

The Pilots and Tigers both made single runs in the second and third innings before the Tigers clawed their way back into the game with four runs in the fourth inning off pitcher Levi Montoya. Montoya was-

n't receiving much help as two defensive blunders allowed the four runs off only three hits. Montoya is now 3-1 for the season.

Brandon Ezernack came in to pitch in the fifth inning and allowed only two runs in his three innings of work.

The Pilots offense answered the Tigers four runs with four runs of their own in the fifth inning.

The Pilots went on to win the game 13-8. Shortstop

Dustin Bissonnette was 3-4 with a double, two RBIs and one run scored. Wesley Gray went 1-2 and hit an in-the-park homerun with two RBIs and two runs. Brian Cooksey managed to score only one run, but collected four RBIs.

In the second game, the Pilots were unstoppable. They jumped ahead 7-0 in the first inning.

The Pilots scored another run in the third inning and six runs in the fourth inning giving them a 14-0 lead. The Pilots took their victory at the end of the fifth inning because of the NAIA 10-run mercy rule.

Pitcher Daniel Welsh picked up his second win of the year in the game allowing only three hits and collecting eight strikeouts.

Brian Cooksey finished 2-3 with a triple and four RBIs, giving him eight RBIs for the day. Thomas Looney was 2-2 with two RBIs and three runs scored.

"We played really great games ...," said sophomore pitcher Brandon Ezernack. "Everyone hit good and we were able to stop their offense."

After their sweep with Paul Quinn, the Pilots record improved to 23-13. The Pilots still stand in second place in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference behind William Carey College.

GRE* GMAT* LSAT* MCAT*

Classes at LSU Starting Soon

Proven Techniques. Comprehensive Materials. Expert Instructors. Personal Attention. Guaranteed Results.

Seats are limited. Call now to enroll.

800-2Review | PrincetonReview.com

*Test names are the trademarks of their respective owners, who are not affiliated with The Princeton Review. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University.

The
Princeton
Review

LSUS debate team hosts ethics tournament

BY RANDY S. PATRICK

Students who happened to return from spring break a little early to finish a paper or study for a mid-term might have noticed several schools competing against the LSUS debate team.

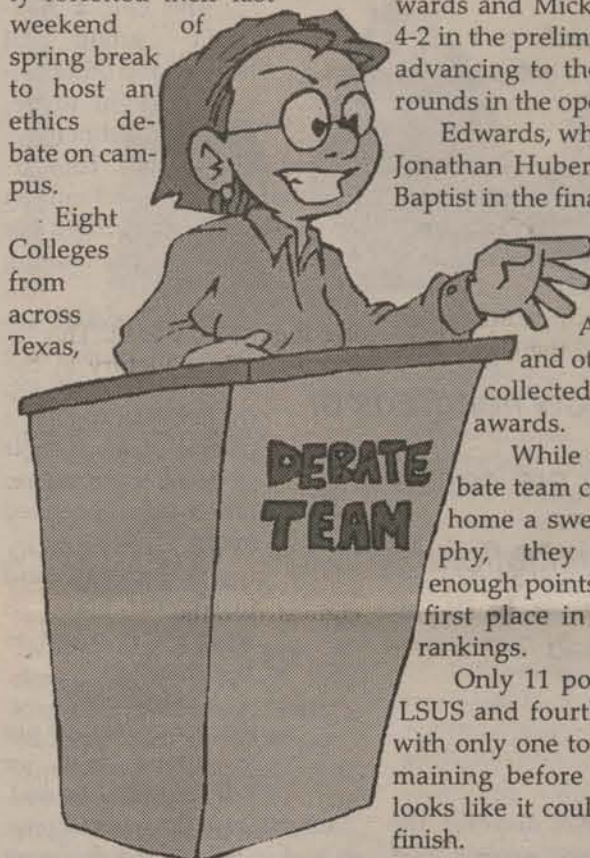
The weekend of March 27, the LSUS debate team willingly forfeited their last weekend of spring break to host an ethics debate on campus.

Eight Colleges from across Texas,

Louisiana and Arkansas and North Caddo High School debated issues of ethics and how to apply them to current topics ranging from human cloning to whether performance-enhancing drugs should be legalized.

Eight LSUS debaters completed in the open, varsity and novice ranks. Both A.J. Edwards and Mick Strong went 4-2 in the preliminary rounds, advancing to the elimination rounds in the open division.

Edwards, who lost against Jonathan Huber of Ouachita Baptist in the finals, picked up



a second place finish. Edwards, Alan Trichell and other members collected speaker awards.

While the LSUS debate team could not take home a sweepstakes trophy, they did score enough points to remain in first place in the national rankings.

Only 11 points separate LSUS and fourth place. And with only one tournament remaining before nationals, it looks like it could be a photo finish.

DEAD WEEK

continued from page 1

athletics event (except for post-season play), or other extracurricular activities requiring student participation will be scheduled" during Dead Week. The faculty agreed that "No major tests (worth 10 percent or more of grade) will be given during Dead Week other than lab finals." Quizzes and make-up exams are excluded, as well as papers and projects listed and specified in the course syllabus.

Mills said that the old policy needs to be looked at in terms of what LSUS is now offering in their athletic department. When Dead Week first began LSUS only had baseball scheduling to contend with. The basketball team has had games run through Dead Week, however, and games are allowed during finals. Mills

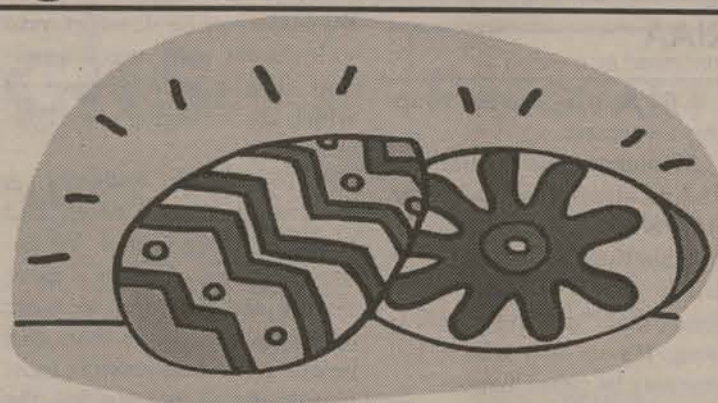
said he believes the athletic department should be involved in these discussions.

"They should be part of the conversation about what we can put into policy to foster the maximum academic ability of the students," said Mills.

Mills believes that all of the attention given to Dead Week is overlooking a more crucial week: finals. He said he would like to see some protection given for the week of finals.

"I'm going to suggest that final exams is more sacred than the week before," he said.

Re-addressing the issue at the next meeting will give students a chance to voice their opinions and concerns over Dead Week. Ingold suggests that students contact the SGA representatives from their individual colleges. The SGA will use this feedback to voice the student opinions to the Faculty Senate members.



YOU DON'T NEED A PH.D TO UNDERSTAND "NO COMMISSIONS"

The math is pretty simple. Hidden charges, high fees, and sales commissions can erode the retirement savings your working so hard to build. Contact us, a company known for giving clear, objective guidance and keeping costs low. We'll show you how our principled approach to long term investing can really add up.

TIAA-CREF.org or call 800-842-2776

Find out more about TIAA-CREF IRAs and our other tax-smart financial solutions



Managing money for people with other things to think about.™

RETIREMENT | INSURANCE | MUTUAL FUNDS | COLLEGE SAVINGS | TRUSTS | INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

You should consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. Please call 877-518-9161 for a prospectus that contains this and other information. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing. TIAA-CREF Individual & Institutional Services, LLC and Teachers Personal Investors Services, Inc. distribute securities products. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing. © 2004 Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF), 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017 C31471

RIAA

continued from page 1

tic in the fight against file swapping: awareness.

Whitehead said that the RIAA is attempting to inform students about the legalities of downloading. He said the RIAA's main message right now is that "stealing music is wrong. It's not only wrong, but there may be consequences."

The RIAA, a Washington, D.C.-based trade association, represents hundreds of member record companies which produce over 90 percent of all "legitimate sound recordings" sold in America.

According to the RIAA, file-sharing program Kazaa, the most downloaded program in

the history of the Internet, provides users with over 2.6 million files a month, most of which are infringing copyrighted music.

"The music industry is looking at a good news, bad news scenario," said Whitehead. "The good news is more people are listening to more music in more ways than ever before... The bad news is most people aren't paying for the music they are listening to."

Throughout Whitehead's discussion, he cautiously avoided the using the term "sharing" and often replaced it with words like pirating, stealing or downloading.

Whitehead

said the RIAA believes so-called "file sharing" is to blame for the 31 percent drop in album sales since 2001.

"If you download a CD in mp3 format at near CD quality, you're not going to go out and buy that CD," said Whitehead.

"If you're trying to sell legitimate music and you have another company giving everything you have away for free, you can't make money, you won't be able to compete. This is all about allowing those companies who want to sell legitimate music to make money."

Despite the decrease in sales, the RIAA isn't doing too poorly for themselves, making over \$11 billion dollars last year alone. And, though still below the sales figures they'd like to see, the recording industry has seen a slight increase in sales since the beginning of the year.

Contrary to Whitehead's statistics, a Harvard study released last week says, "Downloads have an effect on sales which is statistically indistinguishable from zero." The study said most

users are "likely individuals who would not have bought the album even in the absence of

loads equaled another legitimate album purchased.

Others believe that increased competition from media that has increased in sales over the same time period, such as DVDs and video games, is responsible for the recording industry's sales dip. The Electronic Frontier Foundation is one of many organizations standing up against the RIAA lawsuits.

The EFF, a non-profit group of lawyers and other volunteers, fight to defend technology-

related civil liberties. They argue that since over 60 million people in the United States use file-sharing programs, treating downloaders like criminals is not the answer. On their Web site, <http://www.eff.org>, the EFF offers people a chance to see if their personal information has been subpoenaed by the RIAA.

Whitehead said that the RIAA lawsuits were a last resort to save business.

"Litigations against people... is not something that we wanted to do," he said.

"But in light of the massive piracy and in light of the dropping sales because of that piracy, it's something that we had to do."

Though the lawsuits have earned the RIAA a certain degree of notoriety, Whitehead said it has no plans of ceasing.

"We have filed now hundreds of lawsuits," he said, "and we are continuing to pursue those litigations."

"If you download a CD in mp3 format at near CD quality, you're not going to go out and buy that CD.... This is all about allowing those companies who want to sell legitimate music to make money."

-Johnathan Whitehead

RIAA vice-president and anti-piracy counsel

file sharing."

Whitehead commented briefly on the Harvard study, calling it a "battle of the stud-

"We have filed now hundreds of lawsuits, and we are continuing to pursue those litigations."

-Johnathan Whitehead

RIAA Vice-President

ies." The RIAA disputes the Harvard study, saying that "countless" analysts have proven that piracy is harmful to sales. The Harvard study also showed that in some cases downloading noticeably increased sales. Albums selling over 600,000 copies during the study period sold better when downloaded more heavily. For these albums, every 150 down-

Ethics event:

Come to a screening of *The Simpson's*

"Homer Simpson Faces a Moral Dilemma"

with Dr. John Vassar and Suzanne Bright
Common Hour
Today
UC Theater

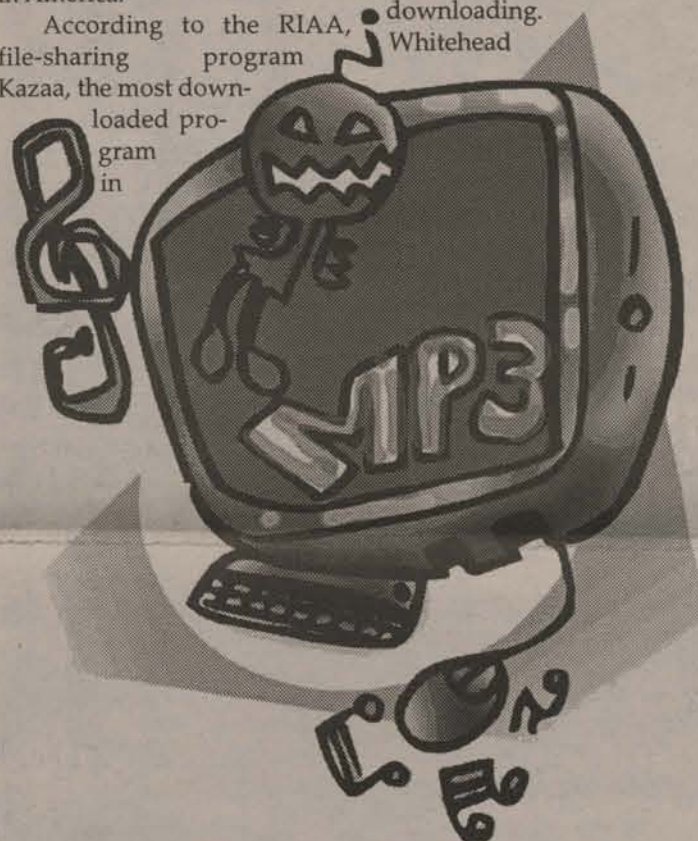
Have a story idea?

We want to hear it.

Call us at 797-5328

or e-mail us at

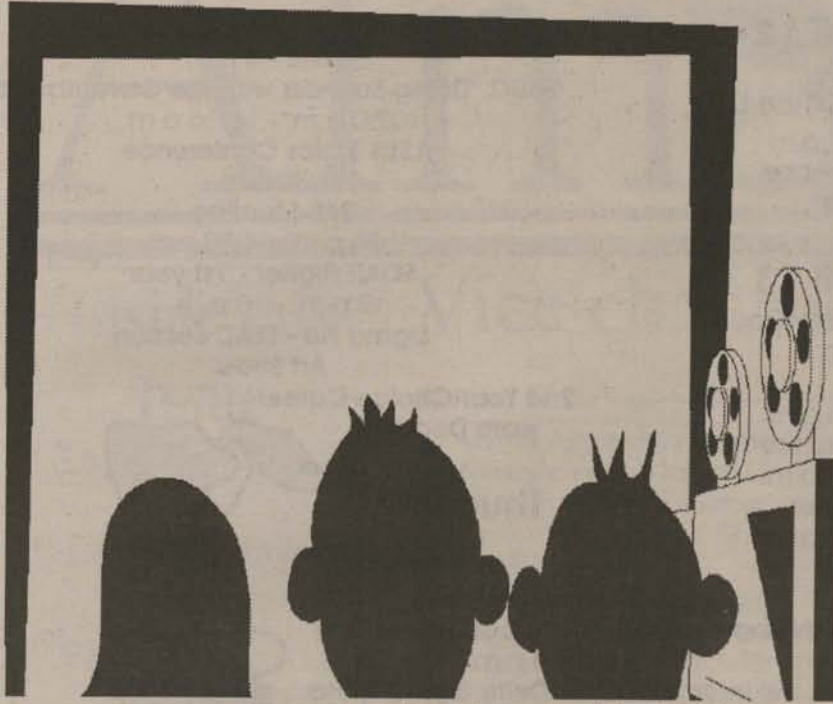
almagest@pilot.lsus.edu



NOTE*NOTE*NOTE

The Spectra
DEADLINE has
been CHANGED
from June 1st
TO
APRIL 16!!!

Jason's Flick Picks



BY JASON LIMERICK

**** Warning...This movie review is intended for mature audiences. It is lacking in moral fiber and may cause dirty thoughts. If you are offended by "naughty" words, go see "Home on the Range." ****

"Hellboy"

I'm having a little trouble reviewing this one. Ya see, Hellboy is a subject near and dear to me. In case you didn't know, this monster story is based on a series of books by a guy named Mike Mignola. I am in love with these books. They are an endlessly entertaining, beautifully illustrated pulp masterpiece that has never ceased to amaze me, and I encourage anyone to head to Barnes and Noble and pick up a volume.

So with that said, you can understand why I will have trouble separating myself from the source material and reviewing this with an objective perspective. I'll give it a try.

"Hellboy" is directed by a guy named Guillermo Del Toro. You may not know him yet, but you will. Del Toro is a self-professed huge fan of the books as well, and actually gave up a much bigger salary and chance to direct the latest "Harry Potter" movie so that he could work on this. The movie has an odd cast of characters. "Hellboy" is played by Ron Pearlman, a B-movie actor who never really got a break, and many of the other characters are a lot of make-up or effects and a voice. The movie's only real star is Selma Blair,

who plays pyrokinetic Liz Sherman—a girl able to create incredibly hot flames with her mind and the object of Hellboy's affections.

The strength of this movie is really its heart. This might look like your typical comic book, over computer-graphicized, bad acted, monster bashing want to be "X-Men," but it's played out with more personality and emotional resonance than most Hollywood dramas. Pearlman makes a real character out of Hellboy, not just some tough guy with a conscience. He makes a flawed hero that you really grow to love, and even under all that make up you believe in him wholeheartedly because he's so well defined.

Another strength is all the cool shit. The effects are off the chain, from actually well done computer graphics to fight scenes that make you audibly gasp.

There's a lot of cool stuff in here. Visually the movie is unparalleled as well. Del Toro pulls the pages right out of the book with such painstaking accuracy that I had to pick my jaw up off the floor at times. It is really quite beautifully imagined.

Now, the only really bad point I could see if I try to put myself in someone else's shoes is that the story line might be a little complicated. If you're looking for reality, or you're one of those people who say, "Oh, that never could have happened. He would totally be dead," or whatever, then just forget it. This is a fun fantasy film, and you have to suspend

your belief and let the narrative take you.

Now, I thought at first that I would give this three stars because although I loved it, I knew that many people wouldn't and I can see how it might seem hokey to some. But then I realized, this is my review and I can pretty much write what I want, so I'm giving it four and if you don't like it ... deal with it.

★★★★☆

"Ladykillers"

God bless the Coen brothers. I love these guys. I mean, lets look at it: "Fargo," "Miller's Crossing," "The Big Lebowski," "O Brother Where Art Thou," "Raising Arizona," and "The Man Who Wasn't There." These guys are what gives me hope in the movie business. Original voices in a sea of bull-shit.

So when I saw that they had teamed up with the uber-talented Mr. Tom Hanks, I was pretty excited. "Ladykillers" is a re-make, but I must confess I never saw the original, and it's not readily-available at the video store (I already checked), but I can imagine this version is considerably different. This is a black comedy, which I'm all about, that takes a sinister look at a crew of miscreants who plan to knock off a casino, and then knock off the little old lady who caught them.

The cast is superb. Hanks gives a performance of comic genius, and you can tell he really enjoys himself. I have to say, I was a little wary when I saw Marlon Wayans on the preview. I mean he can be funny, but he usually plays the same character and tends to crap up a movie— but in this case he was great. Irma P. Hall plays the little old lady and is so believable it's scary, and as usual in a Coen brothers flick, the supporting characters are perfectly played. This isn't the best work they've done though.

The movie does at times have an odd pacing and you really feel like it could have been

great, but it's always just barely missing something. I think that a lot of people will hate the ending, which was my favorite part. It's not what you'd expect, but it's a bit poetic. Another really great point is the music. The score is done by T-Bone Burnett, the genius behind "O Brother Where Art Thou," and it is filled with a stunning mix of old-time rhythms and foot stomping gospel that enhances the film in a way you don't realize until you notice you're head bobbing. Overall, this is worth seeing for Hanks alone, and it's a solid, funny flick that stands out from the pack.

★★★★☆

PREGNANT?

- Free pregnancy tests
- Free limited ultrasounds
- Learn about your options

*Caring
and
Confidential*

**Ark-La-Tex Crisis
Pregnancy Center**
(318) 861-4600
www.altcpc.com

WANNA WRITE?

We need reporters.

Come by Bronson Hall Room 344

Call 797-5328

or

E-mail us:

almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

Grad School Giveaway

Win multimedia essentials!

Enter Kaplan's **Grad School Giveaway** for a chance to win a free 42" Sony® Plasma TV, Sony® DVD Dream® System, or MP3 player.

Visit **kaptest.com/giveaway** to enter today!

KAPLAN

1-800-KAP-TEST
kaptest.com/giveaway

Test Prep and Admissions

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia and Canada (excluding the Province of Quebec) and students residing ON A STUDENT VISA in these eligible jurisdictions who are eighteen (18) years of age or older as of March 15, 2004. LIMIT: One entry per person. All entries must be received or postmarked by June 15, 2004. For additional eligibility restrictions and instructions to enter, see the complete Official Rules, available at Kaplan centers and on-campus sites in the U.S. and Canada, online at kaptest.com/giveaway, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to "Grad School" Giveaway, 1440 Broadway, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Thirteen (13) winners will be selected from all eligible entries received in a random drawing to be held on or about August 9, 2004. Odds of winning depend on total number of eligible entries received. Participation in this promotion constitutes entrant's full and unconditional agreement to and acceptance of the complete Official Rules. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED, TAXED OR OTHERWISE RESTRICTED. If you do not wish to receive notice of future Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions promotions, contact us at Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions, Marketing Department, 1440 Broadway, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10018.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 8

National Former POW Recognition Day

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Phi Eta Sigma Meeting

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Ad Club Meeting

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Homer Simpson Faces An Ethical Dilemma

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Easter Event

10:30 a.m.

2nd Year-Education Advising

7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Delta Sigma Theta Intake Meeting

Friday, April 9

~~~~~NO CLASSES~~~~~

### National Chicken Little Awareness Day

### National D.A.R.E. Day

TEPAR APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 11

## Saturday, April 10

### National Siblings Day

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### LSUS Ethics Conference

## Sunday, April 11

### EASTER

### National Barbershop Quartet Day

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### LSUS Ethics Conference



## Monday, April 12

### Audubon Day

### Vote Lawyers Out of Office Day

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### LSUS Ethics Conference

### Volunteer Day

## Tuesday, April 13

### Blame Someone Else Day

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Blood Drive

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### LSUS Ethics Conference

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### Banachek Teaser

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### BSA Meeting

10:30 a.m.

### 2nd Year- Science Advising

10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

### Writing Workshop "Research & the Internet" -

1st year

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### SOAR Higher - 1st year

7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

### Delta Sigma Theta Intake Meeting

7 p.m.

### Banachek ~ Mentalist

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

### Chi Alpha Club Meeting

### Art Show

## Wednesday, April 14

### Moment of Laughter Day

### Remembrance Day

### 2nd Year-Investment Basics

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### SBDC "Doing Business with the Government"

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### LSUS Ethics Conference

1:30 p.m.

### SAB Meeting

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### SOAR Higher - 1st year

9 p.m. - 10 p.m.

### Sigma Nu - LEAD Session

### Art Show

### 2nd Year-Choice Career-ware Deadline

## Thursday, April 15

### Income Tax &

### Accountants Day

8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

### Delta Sigma Theta

### Sorority Meeting

### Art Show

10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

### Bible Study

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### SPRING FLING

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

### LSUS Ethics Conference

12 p.m.

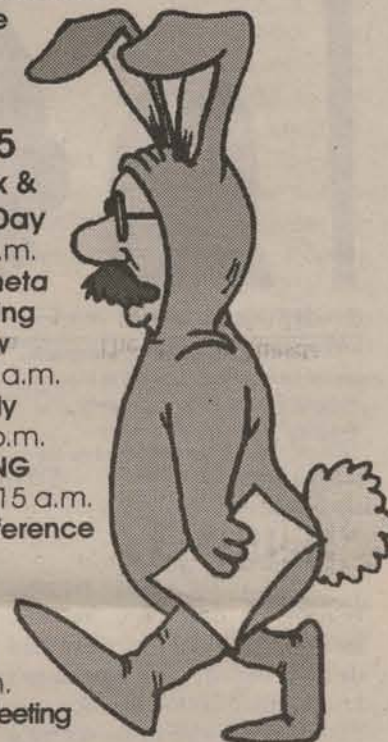
### Academic

### Awards

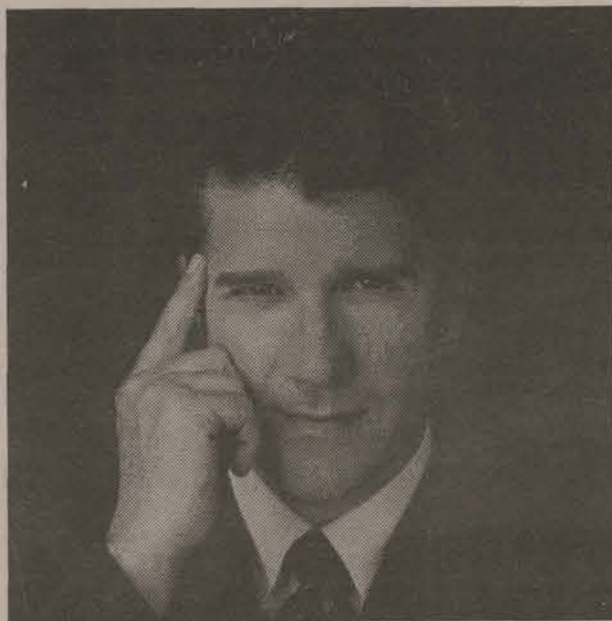
### Convocation

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

### Faculty Senate Meeting



## Mentalist to bring magic to campus



Steve Banachek will come to LSUS to perform two shows in the UC on April 13.

BY TASHA HICKS

Have you ever wanted to see someone bend a spoon with his mind? Or have someone read your mind? Steve Ba-

chek, world-renowned mentalist will be mesmerizing the minds of students on campus Tuesday, April 13.

He uses the five senses to create an illusion of a sixth sense and performs acts of

nachek, world-renowned mentalist will be mesmerizing the minds of students on campus Tuesday, April 13.

Banachek is the world's leading mentalist/mind reader

and performs in a wide variety of settings, including comedy and magic clubs, conventions, parties, colleges and concerts.

telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition, derma optics and hypnotism. Banachek has been approached by many people wanting to buy his acts, including magician David Copperfield.

Banachek incorporates the audience into his performances; therefore, each performance is unique to that audience. He bends spoons, reads minds, and creates illusions some would think of as magic tricks. The consensus of the audience after the show is that of, "How did he do that?"

Banachek has performed many daring acts, risking injury and in some cases, death. He has successfully completed a feat Harry Houdini tried and failed. Banachek has also escaped from a buried coffin on more than one occasion.

He came to the LSUS campus a year ago and

amazed the crowd with his antics.

"Last year he made a girl's hand bleed," said Amanda May, vice president of the Student Activities Board. "He drew a circle on a piece of paper and then stuck it with a straight pin. He wasn't even close to the girl."

Banachek's performance

always draws a big crowd.

"It is a lot of mind teasing," said May. "It's very interesting."

The show is Tuesday, April 13 at 7 p.m. in the University Center Theater and is free to the public. A dessert bar will be set up.

A teaser show will be held in The Port during common hour earlier that day.

